GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4543
ANSWERED ON:18.12.2002
CELLULAR SERVICES
T. GOVINDAN

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have fulfilled its target to provide basic telephones and cellular telephones in the country during the last three years; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, year-wise including details, company-wise viz. BSNL, MTNL and others private companies?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRIMATI S MAHAJAN)

(a) & (b): Government has fulfilled its target in general to provide basic telephony and Cellular telephony in the Country and Company wise details are given as under:

BHARAT SANCHAR NIGAM LIMITED

Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited has exceeded the targets during 1999-2000and 2000-2001. During the year 2001-2002 the targets for basic telephones could not be achieved due to heavy disconnections (of approx. 13.44 lakh). The target and achievement of BSNL for the last three years is given at Annexure- I.

MAHANAGAR TELEPHONE NIGAM LIMITED

The achievement of Mahanager Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) forCellular telephones is significantly higher than its target. However achievement of Basic telephones is marginally lowerthan the targets. The target and achievement of MTNLfor the last three years is given at Annexure-I.

PRIVATE COMPANIES

As per licensing conditions, there are no specific target fixed by the Government for providing CellularTelephones by private operators, however, an operator is required to cover 10% of District Headquarters within one year and 50% of District Headquarters within three years of their service. The licensee is also permitted to cover any other town in a district in lieu of the District Headquarters. The choice of District/town to be covered and further expansion beyond 50% District Headquarters/town shall lie with the licensee depending on their business decision. As on 31.10.2002, total no. of cellular mobile telephones by the private companies are given in Annexure-ll.

As regards Basic Private Operators, the commitments in the firstthree years from effective date only is 2017809 DEL's (Direct Exchange Lines) for all operators and the achievement during last three years company-wise is given at Annexure-lll.

ANNEXURE-I

Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL)

Year	Basic Telephones		Cellular Telephones		Total	
	Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement
1999-2000	4060000	4539948	0	0	4060000	4539948
2000-2001	5350000	5629255	0	# 2707	5350000	5631959
2001-2002	6529500	5292009	300500	# 14973	6830000	5306982##

Achievement from Pilot projects only.

Although BSNL provided 66.51 lakh new telephone lines in the country in 2001-02 but net new lines were 53.07 lakh only due to disconnection of 13.44 lakh lines.

Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL)

Year	Basic Telephones		Cellular Telephones		Total	
	Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement
1999-2000	4.25 lakh	3.78 lakh	0	0	4.25 lakh	3.78 lakh
2000-2001	3.25 lakh	2.85 lakh	0	18243 lines	3.25 lakh	3.032 lakh
2001-2002	2.5 lakh	2.25 lakh	1,00,000 lines	200547 lines	3.50 lakh	3.25 lakh

ANNEXURE-II

CELLULAR SUBSCRIBER FIGURE IN TELEPHONE SERVICE IN TELECOM CIRCLES AND METRO CITIES INCLUDING MTNL AND BSNL

Sl. No.	Service Area (Metro City/ Telecom Circle)	Name of Operator as on 31.10.2002	Number of Subscribers
1	DELHI	Bharti Cellular Ltd.	7,91,637
		Sterling Cellular Ltd.	5,55,586
		Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited	1,26,980
2	MUMBAI	BPL Mobile Communications Ltd.	5,56,871
		Hutchison Max Telecom Ltd.	5,73,365
		Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Ltd.	1,07,493
		Bharti Cellular Ltd.	1,77,403
3	KOLKATA	Bharti Mobile Ltd.	1,67,728
		Usha Martin Telekom Ltd.	2,31,719
		Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd.	13,338
4	CHENNAI	RPG Cellular Services Ltd.	1,50,284
		Bharti Mobinet Ltd.	1,80,126
		Hutchison Essar South Ltd.	40,120
5	ANDHRA PRADESH	IDEA Cellular Ltd.	3,13,394
		Bharti Mobile Ltd.	3,02,896
		Hutchison Essar South Ltd.	44,628
6	ASSAM	Reliance Telecom (P) LTd.	37,675
7	BIHAR	Reliance Telecom (P) LTd.	1,36,201
		Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd.	17,952
8	GUJARAT	Fascel Ltd.	3,88,754
		IDEA Cellular Ltd.	2,25,026
		Bharti Cellular Ltd.	45,929
		Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd.	7,000
9	HARYANA	Escotel Mobile Communications Ltd.	1,02,371
		Aircel Digilink India Ltd.	19,643
		Bharti Cellular Ltd.	35,799
		Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd.	105
10	HIMACHAL PR	Bharti Telenet Ltd.	23,879
		Reliance Telecom (P) Ltd.	8,480
11	KARNATAKA	Spice Communications Ltd.	2,00,619
		Bharti Mobile Limited	3,06,718
		Hutchison Essar South Ltd.	41,395

12	KERALA	BPL Cellular Ltd.			1,47,809
		Escotel Communications Ltd.	Mobile	2,45,052	
		Bharti Cellular Ltd.		60,484	
		Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited		6,032	
13	MAHARASHTRA	BPL Mobile Limited	Cellular		1,95,270
		IDEA Cellular Ltd.		3,91,229	
		Bharti Cellular Ltd.		88,588	
		Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited		12,270	
14	MADHYA PRADESH	RPG Cellcom Ltd.			1,20,370
		Reliance Telecom Pvt. Ltd.		1,39,918	
		Bharti Cellular Ltd.		25,407	
		Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited		7,174	
15	NORTH EAST	Reliance Telecom (P) Ltd.			6,771
16	ORISSA	Reliance Telecom (P) Ltd.			57,441
17	PUNJAB	Spice Communications Ltd.			4,10,498
		Bharti Mobile Ltd.		1,76,906	
		Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited		446	
18	RAJASTHAN	Aircel India Ltd.	Digilink		33,064
		Hexacom India Ltd.		1,04,306	
		Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited		708	
19	TAMILNADU	BPL Mobile Cellular Ltd.			1,55,370
		Aircel Ltd.		1,98,116	
		Bharti Cellular Ltd.		70,742	
		Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited		6,833	
20	UTTAR PRADESH (WEST)	Escotel Communications Ltd.	Mobile		2,18,227
		Bharti Cellular Ltd.		57,260	
21	UTTAR PRADESH (EAST)	Aircel India Ltd.	Digilink		93,383
		Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited		7,364	
22	WEST BENGAL	Reliance Telecom (P) Ltd.			57,683
		Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited		100	

METRO CITIES	36,72,650
CIRCLE	53,53,285
ALL INDIA TOTAL	90,25,935

Annexure-III

COMPANY-WISE DETAILS OF ACHIEVEMENT MADE DURING LAST THREE YEARS

Name of Companies	1999-2000	2000-2001	2001-2002
Bharti Telenet Ltd.	77987	23245	66077
Hughes Telecom (India) Ltd.	17196	46686	90913
Tata Teleservices Ltd.	26713	31847	91935
Reliance Telecom Ltd.	NIL	160	140
Shyam Telecom Ltd.	NIL	9119	18031
HFCL Infotel Ltd.	NIL	13326	53069